



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**Department of
Agricultural Commissioner/
Weights and Measures**



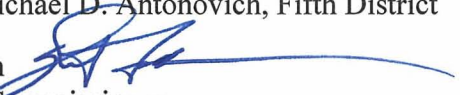
Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

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Richard K. Iizuka
Chief Deputy

DATE: February 14, 2008

TO: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair, Second District
Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Third District
Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fifth District

FROM: Kurt E. Floren 
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: **CONTINUATION OF DIAPREPES ROOT WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM**

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) will be resuming eradication treatments in an ongoing effort to fight Diaprepes Root Weevil, a major citrus pest, in two areas of Long Beach and an area in La Mirada. Treatments had been suspended for the winter months as of November 2007. As you may recall, based on advice from a scientific advisory panel made up of entomologists from across the country most familiar with this pest, CDFA embarked upon the recommended protocol of a multi-pronged 5-7 year eradication plan including the use of foliage pesticides to kill adult weevils and soil pesticide applications and the use of soil dwelling nematodes to attack the root-feeding larvae. The weevil is long-lived and takes between 5 and 18 months to progress through its life cycle, thus necessitating the long eradication plan.

CDFA has planned an "Open House" meeting with the public scheduled for Tuesday, February 19, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Brewitt Branch Library, 4036 E. Anaheim Street in Long Beach. All residents in the Long Beach eradication zones will be invited through a door-to-door invitation process by CDFA staff. The open house, which will include representatives from CDFA as well as staff of the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, will be an opportunity for residents, civic leaders, and affected groups in the area to attend and learn exactly what will be taking place and their respective roles in assuring long term success. The meeting will provide an opportunity to voice their special needs and concerns as well as to obtain answers to any questions they may have.

This latest round of treatments will begin in Long Beach on Monday, March 3 and will affect approximately 160 properties. All affected residents will receive prior written notification of the treatment plans delivered to their doors two days prior to the application with a toll-free number by which they can obtain additional information.

The existing quarantine boundaries have been extended in Long Beach in response to the discovery of a separate infested area in summer 2007.

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
R. Doyle Campbell, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Public Safety
Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer
Board Deputies

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